

We claim:

1. A composition comprising an immunologically effective amount of intact killed cells of isolated  $\beta$ -hemolytic *Streptococcus agalactiae* and a concentrated extract of a culture of  $\beta$ -hemolytic *Streptococcus agalactiae*.
2. The composition of claim 1 wherein said  $\beta$ -hemolytic *Streptococcus agalactiae* is encapsulated.
3. The composition of claim 2 wherein said  $\beta$ -hemolytic *Streptococcus agalactiae* comprises a strain having all the identifying characteristics of deposit accession number NRRL B-30607, a strain having all the identifying characteristics of deposit accession number NRRL B-30608, or mixtures thereof.
4. The composition of claim 1 wherein said concentrated extract consists essentially of extracellular products of said culture of  $\beta$ -hemolytic *Streptococcus agalactiae*.
5. The composition of claim 4 wherein said concentrated extract is substantially free of cells, cell wall fragments, and intracellular components of said  $\beta$ -hemolytic *Streptococcus agalactiae*.
6. The composition of claim 1 wherein said concentrated extract comprises extracellular products of said culture of  $\beta$ -hemolytic *Streptococcus agalactiae* having a molecular weight greater than about 1 kDa.

7. The composition of claim 6 wherein said extracellular products have a molecular weights greater than about 2 kDa.
8. The composition of claim 7 wherein said extracellular products have a molecular weights greater than about 3 kDa.
9. The composition of claim 6 wherein said concentrated extract consists essentially of extracellular products of said culture of  $\beta$ -hemolytic *Streptococcus agalactiae*.
10. A biologically pure culture of *Streptococcus agalactiae* having all the identifying characteristics of a strain selected from the group consisting of deposit accession number NRRL B-30607 and deposit accession number NRRL B-30608.
11. A method of protecting a fish against infection by *Streptococcus agalactiae* comprising administering the composition of claim 1 thereto.
12. The method of claim 11 wherein said fish is selected from the group consisting of golden shiners, bullminnows, bluefish, gulf menhaden, sea catfish, mullet, pinfish, Atlantic croaker, spot, weakfish, channel catfish, rainbow trout, eels, striped bass and their hybrids, sea bass, sea bream, turbot and tilapia.
13. The method of claim 12 wherein said fish is a tilapia.
14. The method of claim 11 wherein said composition is administered by intraperitoneal injection or bath immersion.

15. A method of protecting a fish against infection by *Streptococcus agalactiae* comprising administering the composition of claim 3 thereto.

16. A method of protecting a fish against infection by *Streptococcus agalactiae* comprising administering the composition of claim 4 thereto.

17. A method of protecting a fish against infection by *Streptococcus agalactiae* comprising administering the composition of claim 6 thereto.

18. A method of protecting a fish against infection by *Streptococcus agalactiae* comprising administering the composition of claim 9 thereto.

19. A method for producing a vaccine for protecting fish against *Streptococcus agalactiae* comprising:

- a) providing a killed whole cell preparation from a culture of an isolated  $\beta$ -hemolytic *Streptococcus agalactiae*,
- b) providing a concentrated extract of the extracellular products from a culture of  $\beta$ -hemolytic *Streptococcus agalactiae*, and
- c) combining said intact killed cells and said concentrated extract in an immunologically effective amount.

20. The method of claim 19 wherein said killed whole cell preparation is produced by subjecting a culture of an isolated  $\beta$ -hemolytic *Streptococcus agalactiae* to a chemical or physical

treatment effective for killing approximately 100% of the cells therein without a substantial degree of cell lysis.